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" THE DUMB STENOGRAPHER "

PROPERTY OF JOHNNIE SPEER.

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THE DUMB STENOGRAPHER

CAST

MR. WILLOBY ..... CHARACTER OLD MAN

JACK WILLOBY ..... JUVENILE

NAPOLEON ..... STRAIGHT OR EDGENTRIC  
OFFICER ..... BIT

LIZZIE ..... COMEDY

MARJORIE ..... INGENUE

SETTING

Office interior. Desk and chairs. Doors R. and L.

PROPS

Telephone  
Stage money  
Stocks and bonds  
Books and office furnishings.

LOVE IN A CANNING FACTORY.

LIZZIE

(ENTERS R. AS THE TELEPHONE IS RINGING ANSWERS IT) Hello! No. Mr. Willoby is not in just now. I don't know when he'll be in. He said he was going out to shoot a little golf. What? Tell him the order is cancelled. You mean you're not going to take that car load of canned goods you ordered. Why I--- (WILLOBY ENTERS R. SHE SEES HIM) Oh here he is now do you want to tell him--(TURNS TO WILLOBY) He hung up on me.

WILLOBY

Who was it? Who was it? What did they want?

LIZZIE

They didn't want nothin'. It was the Consolidated Grocery Company; they cancelled that order of canned goods that they gave you last week.

WILLOBY

(DROPS DOWN AT HIS DESK) Cancelled it? Good Lord! This is the third order I've had cancelled this week. Somebody is outbidding me. They are selling their goods cheaper. I'll go broke if this keeps up.

LIZZIE

It seems like your cans get canned every time don't they?

WILLOBY

Listen, you. None of your bum remarks. Maybe if I had somebody in my office besides such a dumb secretary as you are, I might make my canning business pay.

LIZZIE

Maybe I could give you some ideas on how to make your business pay.

WILLOBY

(LAUGHS) You! Why as dumb as you are, if I'd listen to anything that came out of your head, I'd be in the poor house by next week. Look what you done last week. You cost me ten thousand dollars just last week. Do you hear me, ten thousand dollars.

LIZZIE

Oh what did you buy me?

WILLOBY

Buy you? I didn't buy you anything. I say you caused me to lose that much. I was trying to form a business merge with The Beamis Brothers manufacturers of Pins and needles. They come here to call on me to talk business, and the minute you open your head they leave in a fit of anger.

LIZZIE

Why? What did I do? I didn't say nothin'.

WILLOBY

What did you do? What did you do? You didn't say anything. No not much. When introduced you to them, I said gentlemen meet my secretary, and then I said Miss Amnesia these gentlemen are of the Beamis Pin Company. They are the leading heads of the pin industry. And then what did you say? What did you say?

LIZZIE

Nothin? I just said I was glad to meet the two biggest pin heads in America.

WILLOBY  
OH, I ought to choke you. I'd fire you if my wife would let me. The only reason I hired you was because you're so dumb that my knew I'd be safe with you. With your face you could be trusted any where.

LIZZIE

Oh, Mr. Willoby, I'm so glad you place so much trust in me.

WILLOBY

Oh don't talk to me. I'm out of humor. I can't even shoot golf any more. (TAKES OUT TWO GOLF BALLS SETS THEM ON TABLE)

LIZZIE

Oh what are those?

WILLOBY

Golf balls!

LIZZIE

Oh aint it a shame!

WILLOBY

Listen, I'm going to be busy today, and if that no good son of mine comes in the office, tell I'm out. I don't want to see him. He makes me sore. Thinks because he's been to college that he can tell me how to run my business. Now do you hear me? I'm not in. Tell him I went out. I don't want to see the young puppy.

JACK

(ENTERS R. QUICKLY) Hello, dad.

LIZZIE

Your old man's gone out, he don't want to see you.

JACK

(LAUGHS) Well, that's news indeed. What's the matter, dad? Trying to give me the air. I just came over to see how the old factory was and look over the office. Who's this---your private secretary?

LIZZIE

Yes, I handle his privates. (DOES A BOW\$

JACK

Boy! She's a knockout.

LIZZIE

Oh do you think I'm beautiful. Look a t me some more.

JACK

Oh don't get me wrong.

LIZZIE

Oh I think you're all right. My goodness I never knew you had a son like this, Mr. Willoby. How your son be so nice looking and you're so ugly.

WILLOBY

Shut up! Jack, you think you're so smart and know so much about business, how can a man get along with a secretary that looks like that. And she's so dumb she ~~thinks~~ doesn't know the difference between alcohol and cat oil.

LIZZIE

Oh yes I do. Alcohol is a talkie, and castor oil is a movie.

JACK

Gee whiz dad, I believe it's almost human. Say dad, I've got an idea for you to make some money. Now I want to tell you how run this business and--

WILLOBY

I don't want to hear it. I've run this business for thirty years and I know how to do it. Don't try to tell me any more. You wait until you're a married man and settled down then maybe I'll talk to you.

JACK

Oh dad I'll get married some day.

LIZZIE

Ahem! I can give you my phone number if you want it.

JACK

No, thanks, I'm engaged to a beautiful girl, but I don't want to get married yet. I want to show dad that I can put his business over. Now dad, I was just over to the golf course and I had a happy idea ---wait till I take these golf balls out. (TAKES TWO BALLS OUT AND LAYS THEM ON TABLE) They're bulging my pockets.

LIZZIE

(PICKS THEM BOTH UP) Oh I see you've killed another golf. My I think it's a shame to kill them little animals. (WILLOBY EXITS. JACK LAUGHS AND MOWLLS HIM LIZZIE LOOKS DUMB AS USUAL.)

\*\*\*\*\* NUMBER ONE \*\*\*\*\*  
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WILLOBY

(ENTERS WITH JACK. HAS A LETTER HE IS READING) "Dear Sir, we have decided that we cannot give you any more orders for your canned goods. Business is bad and we are not buying any more." There you are. Another one of my biggest customers gone. I've a notion to blow my factory up.

JACK

Don't do that, dad; let me run it.

WILLOBY

Well, that would be just as bad. What makes you think that you know more than I do. ABOUT running this business?

JACK

Oh dad, I want to try it. And besides Marjorie said that she would not marry me until I had made a success in business. So I thought if I could put your canning factory on thekum its Meet again that would surely make her proud of me and dad, it's easy to make money.

WILLOBY

Oh is it? How do you know? You never made any.

JACK

No, but that's my motto. It's easy to make money. That's what I'll keep saying over and over, and by that I'll soon be able to prove to you that it's easy to make money.

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WILLOBY

It sounds all right, but it won't work out. Look here, son, I've got fifty thousand dollars worth of brand new machinery out there in my factory. I still owe twenty thousand dollars on it. If by the end of the next three months I don't have that amount the people will come in and take it out. I'll have nothing but an empty cannery company. Now with such bright prospects as that, can you say it's easy to make money?

JACK

Sure, it's easy to make money. Why when I take over this business I'll make so much money that you'll have to buy a new factory to hold it all.

WILLOBY

Do you know what I'm going to do with you? I'm going to take you up. Here's my factory, my office---for thirty years I've run this business like the captain of a ship runs his craft across the seas. Now you take the helm, and if you don't make money just remember that we are ruined. I'll lose my factory, our home---everything!

JACK

Don't worry, dad, it's easy to make money. Just keep that in mind. Listen the reason you can't sell your canned goods is because you're an independent manufacturer, and nowadays everybody belongs to a chain or a corporation and merchants think that they can buy cheaper from them. Watch me sell the Begnis A & C Grocery Exchange. (AT PHONE) Hell I wish to speak to the manager. How do you I'm the President of the Great Organization of Chained Consolidated Corporation of Canning Goods. I would like to take your order for canned groceries. How many carloads. Oh my goodness our canned goods are so cheap they're ashamed of themselves. Two carloads fine? O. K. (HANGS UP) See there dad, it's easy to make money.

WILLOBY

Say, how did you do that? They just cancelled an order from me not a week ago---

JACK

Easy dad, it's easy to make money when you know how---Don't you see the minute I told them that we were a great chain of manufacturers they thought we would be cheaper, and people will buy anything that's cheap. Say, dad, how much capital has this business of yours got.

WILLOBY

My, boy, business has been so bad the last year, that I've got just ten thousand dollars left in the bank to my credit.

JACK

That's fine! That's all I need. Gee, it's easy to make money. Dad, I want you to give me that ten thousand.

WILLOBY

Nothing doing---you're not going to make money off of me that easy.

JACK

Oh, dad, I'm going to take that and make more money and more money. You've got to have sidelines nowadays----say just write a check to me for ten thousand dollars, let me show you how to invest it and make money.

WILLOBY

My boy, I'm going to do it.  
 (SITS AT DESK AND BEGINS WRITING CHECK) I'm going to give you my  
 last ten thousand--just to show you that I'm a damn fool.

JACK

Oh, dad, you don't have to show me, I'll take your word for it. (TAKES  
 CHECK)

WILLOBY

What? Say--

JACK

Don't ask any questions just watch me make money. (GOES TO TELEPHONE)  
 Hello, Central, give me the *Midwest Stock Exchange*. Wait until I  
 invest five thousand in this deal. Say you'll be a millionaire by  
 morning.

WILLOBY

Oh nosh. (LIZZIE ENTERS) I'm going out and play a game of golf. Lizzie  
 meet your new boss I've just turned over my business to him. Now  
 remember my boy, you hold my future in my hand, and if you don't make  
 good---it's the poor house for us. (EXITS)

JACK

Don't worry about that---

LIZZIE

Oh so you're the boss now. Oh aint that nice. I---

JACK

Don't bother me, I'm trying to get a connection on the phone. I can't  
 hear a word of the thing. Acts like the receiver is plugged up.

LIZZIE

Oh wait a minute. Give me my gum. (GRABS IT OUT OF RECEIVER AND  
 CHEWS ON IT) Go ahead now and boss me.

JACK

Hello. *MidWest Stock Exchange*. Hello, give me John Highley on the  
 phone.

LIZZIE

Oh what are you going to do?

JACK

Shut up. I'm going to make money. You know it's easy to make money.

LIZZIE

My dad can sure make money, but he aint doin' it now.

JACK

Why not?

LIZZIE

It wouldn't pass the officers and they put him in jail.

JACK

Well, watch me make real money. Hello, John---say give me a tip on  
 the market will you? Sure I want to put five thousand on anything you

anything you

LIZZIE  
Put it on me if you want to. (SCRATCHES)

JACK  
Shut up, you fool. No--not you John--

LIZZIE  
No---me.

JACK  
Yes--me. Listen will you either keep still or--no I'm not talking to you, John, old fellow I'm talking to my dumb stenographer. Listen, old pal, I want a real tip, I want to show dad how to make money. I've been telling him that it's easy to make money. What? American Crabs Crabs are going to go up, Thanks. I'll put my money on them right away. (HANGS UP) Hurrah. I'll make money hand over fist. Gee it's easy to make money. Get out of my way. I'm going to put my money on crabs.

LOZIE  
Crabs? Will thos little things make you money? (SCRATCHES)

JACK  
Sure they will. My friend said that by winter crabs would be worth fifty cents a piece. (STARTS OUT)

LIZZIE  
Fifty cents a piece. Hey come here.

JACK  
(COMES DOWN TO HER) What do you want?

LIZZIE  
I want you to shake hands with me. I'm going to be a millionaire. (SCRATCHES. HE GIVES HER A LOOK AND EXITS)

\*\*\*\*\* NUMBER TWO \*\*\*\*\*  
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MARJORIE  
(ENTERS R. LIZZIE ENTERS L.) How do you do. Is Mr. Jack Willeby in?

LIZZIE  
Yes, he's in the hole five thousand dollars to his old man.

MARJORIE  
What do you mean, my dear girl?

LIZZIE  
Nothin'. Only he put five thousand dollars of his old man's money in a stock deal and it went--kerpluke. Say who are you?

MARJORIE  
(PUTS IT ON) Well, if you must know I'm his fiancee--

LIZZIE  
(MIMICS HER) Oh you don't say--

MARJORIE  
Yes, I am but if he doesn't get busy and make a success of himself, I'm

afraid our engagement will have to be cancelled.

JACK

( ENTERS R. LOOKS DISCOURAGED) Oh hello, Marjorie, dear.

MARJORIE

Hello, Jack. Your secretary has just informed me that you are not making such a grand success of your father's business.

JACK

Oh that's all right, Marjorie, don't worry, I'll make some money some way. I had a little tough luck, I bought American crabs, and they went astray on me. But I'll make money. It's easy to make money.

LIZZIE

é k d d t c h a s d k d d h d k

JACK

é h a l t d i s d k d a d a d t d l e n k

LIZZIE

d H k d t h h d k d k l g o t k d n h d k f d t k h n k s t r a y k d k k s d k

MARJORIE

Well, Jack, you had better hurry up. A girl can't be asked to wait forever on a man to make money nowadays you know

JACK

Gee, Marjorie, I'm trying my best. But I've got to kind of lay low for a while because I don't want dad todkdk see me. When he finds out I lost him five thousand at one whack he's going to lay me out in fourteen different languages. (EXITS L.)

LIZZIE

Poor fella. I wish he could make some money. He says it's easy to make money but I guess it isn't.

MARJORIE

Maybe it would be easy enough to make money if one knew exactly how to do it, but I'm afraid he's hopeless.

LIZZIE

don't you love him?

MARJORIE

Oh I don't know. You see when I became engaged to Jack it was three years ago before he went to college. That's a long time for an engagement to last, and at the time we were engaged he and his father had plenty of money, but it seems every year they've been losing and so I have been putting him off. It's a cinch I don't love him well enough to marry him when he is stripped of his cloak of wealth.

LIZZIE

Gosh I'd love him stripped or otherwise.

MARJORIE

What! Do you mean to say that you are in love with Jack. Oh how funny. Have you ever told him of your love?

LIZZIE

No, I get tongue tied ever time I look at him.

MARJORIE

Oh don't let a little thing like that bother you. When he comes in here, jump up and throw your arms around him, Throw yourself at him Jump at him. Give him all you've got.

LIZZIE

If I ever did he'd be worn out. Say won't you be jealous.

MARJORIE

No---I don't care. If you can get him, you can have him. But he's a man tha t's got to be conquered you must vamp him. Jack is cold and to win him, you must pull out his affection.

LIZZIE

Pull out what?

MARJORIE

Pull it out and play on it.

LIZZIE

What do you want me to play hop scotch or marbles?

MARJORIE

No--no--you must touch his chord of human interest. And say you should make yourself beautiful. Here take my lip stick and paint your lips. Make them large and lucious--so that he will want to kiss them.

LIZZIE

(PAINTS BIG LIPS) Oh I'm so nervous I've got goosepimples allready. How do I look?

MARJORIE

(LAUGHING) Like a gentle zepher

LIZZIE

Who's a hepiefer ? Now what next do I do.

MARJORIE

Just get ready to surprise him when he comes in the door by doing as I told you. Do you remember?

LIZZIE

Let see--grab ahold of his chord--and pull out his infection. Is that right?

MARJORIE

As near right as you'll ever get it. Here he comes! (JACK ENTERS L.)

LIZZIE

(DOES VAMP BUS. THEN GIVES A BIG RUN AND STRADDLES HIM) Oh hot papa! Kiss me while my lips are big and lucious.

JACK

What the---say have you gone crazy? (PUTS HER DOWN)

LIZZIE

NO I'm just out to tell you that I love ya. I love ya so much that it's burning a hole in my petticoat. Come to me. My man. (CHASES HIM ABOUT ROOM. MARJORIE LAUGHING AND FINALLY LIZZIE GRABS HIM. THEY WRESTLE SHE GRABS HIS PANTS AND TURNS TO MARJORIE) Shall I pull it out now?

MARJORIE

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Go ahead. Do what you want to. I've got to get out of here before I break my sides laughing. (EXITS R. LAUGHING)

JACK

Say will you get down and quit clawing at me before I hit you over the head with something. Marjorie sure has a funny idea of a joke. Did she tell you to do all of this?

LIZZIE

Uh huh-- she said for me to pull it out and play on it.

JACK

Well, leave me alone---I'm worried---worried sick--I've lost five thousand dollars for dad---and everything is going wrong. I said it was easy to make money, but---

LIZZIE

Oh say it is easy to make money. I meant to tell you. I got somebody who's comin' to see you and tell you a great secret of makin' money.

JACK

Who is it? Quick---tell me.

LIZZIE

It's my brother---I aint seen him for years, and the other day he come into town. I told him about you and he said that he'd see you. and give you a tip that would tie up the whole market.

JACK

Where is he?

LIZZIE

He's out in the other office waiting for an interview. Ahall I get him

JACK

Oh I don't know. I can't imagine any one being related to you and having brilliant ideas for anything.

LIZZIE

Ah please lis ten to him--he knows a whole lot---you see if he don't. I'll call him in---(GOES TO D. R.) Hey, bud come on in. He's gonna talk to you.

NAPOLEON

(ENTERS R.) Ah---Mr. Willoby. I know you. I've heard of you. And I've heard of your father. Great man. Great man. So you're running his place for him now eh. (LOOKS ABOUT ROOM A LITTLE MYSTERIOUSLY) My man, we are alone here--aren't we? There's no danger of any one listening to what I say.

JACK

No of course not. Lizzie, you watch that door and if any one comes in tap me on the head lightly.

LIZZIE

What diffik fk if you don't feel me tappin' you on the head.

JACK

Well, tap me hard enough that I will feel it.

All right.

JACK

Now let's hear what you've got to offer?

NAPOLEON

Shhh! This must remain a very grave secret between you and I. This means money---money undreamed of.

JACK

What is it? Quick---don't keep me in suspense---

LIZZIE

No, don't keep us in suspenders.

NAPOLEON

I happen to know where a man can buy mining stock that is fifty years sixty and seventy years old. The mines have been deserted for years, but they are going to open up. I and I alone know this. Now we can buy ---how much moha have you got---how much?

JACK

Five thousand dollars.

NAPOLEON

That will do. That will do. Oh if I only had that much myself. I'd keep this money, but now I must give it to you. Listen--I can buy you for one dollar a share Big Chief Mohawk stock---ever hear of it?

JACK

No?

NAPOLEON

That was before your time that's why. Shhh! Down on the river front amongst a lot of dirt and rubbish there leaves an old prospector---a forty niner---I'm the only one that knows he has that stock--and I'm the only one outside of the big wall Street that knows that his stock is worth anything. He'll sell fifteen hundred shares of Big Chief Mohawk for a dollar a share. That's fifteen hundred dollars but by tomorrow it will be worth fifteen hundred thousand. You're sure no body can hear us or walkin on us. I don't want this secret let out---in fact I don't want anybody to even see me. There's a price on my head for what I know about the stock market.

JACK

No--no--no one will know--Lizzie tap me on the head if any one comes in.

LIZZIE

I will.

NAPOLEON

Now come here---come closer---Edkakaklodgld from this same old prospector I can buy Bull Frog--

LIZZIE

Don't bigkaklodkrget no crabs brother, they aint no good--

NAPOLEON

Bull Frog Mining stock---it will be worth a million --million cold---

Oh we'll make a cleaning---I can buy 3000 shares of Bull Frog for a dollar share---and listen --come here---I'm soafried somebody might be listening to us ---shhhh---(HE BEGINS WHISPERING IN JACK'S EAR. OLD MAN WILLOBY ENTERS. LIZZIE SEES HIM TAPS JACK LIGHTLY ON THE HEAD WITH HER FINGERS. HE DOESN'T HEAR. SHE DOES THIS SEVERAL TIMES. PICKS UP A LEAD PENCIL THEN A BLOTTER A SMALL BOOK AND FINALLY A CANE AND SHE COMES DOWN PLENTY HARD NEARLY KNOCKING HIM OUT)

JACK

What in the name of--

LIZZIE

Somebody come in?

JACK

OH It's dad---come here dad---(TO NAPOLEON) This my my dad we can let him in on this---dad, this man knows the greatest tip in the world. Here---(HANDS HIM SOME BILLS) I want all that Big Chief Mohawk and Bull Frog stock---here's thirty one hundred dollars.

WILLOBY

Let me in on this--what is it?

JACK

Dad he knows where he can buy stock for a dollar a share that's going to be worgh millions he's the only one that knows anything about it.

NAPOLEON

Then I can get nineteen hundred ahares of Great Bend---,Great Bend,-

WILLOBY

Why I heard of that stock when I was a kid.

NAPOLEON

It will come back. I know. I know.

WILLOBY

Well, buy that Grend Bend---that's great stuff.

JACK

Here---take this five thousand--now get that stock quick--and when can we find out when we're rich.

WILLOBY

We'll get the quoatations on the phone. Hurry my man and get that stock for us.

NAPOLEON

I'll send a messenger---to my friend---the River Rat---(EXITS R.)

JACK

Isn't that wonderful dad. That man really knows a sure thing. I'd have never thought of buying up old stock like that, would you?

WILLOBY

No indeed---where did you ever find out about him.

JACK

He's Lizzie's brother.

Oh is he? Well, I hope he's all right.

NAPOLEON

Well, my friends--the money is off on its winged way. Soon you'll be rich---rich as Croesus!

LIZZIE

Aint it grand? And just think he's my long lost brother.

JACK

Lizzie, I appreciate this.

LIZZIE

Oh it's all right.

MARJORIE JACK

(AS MARJORIE ENTERS) Oh Marjorie, congratulate me---soon we can get married---dad and I are going to be millionaires---we bought some stock through a tip this guy gave us and see it will only be a matter of time now.

LIZZIE

Yep it won't be long now.

OFFICER

I'll find him. I'll find him. (ENTERS R.) Ah ha. so there you are. (GRABS NAPOLEON)

JACK

Say what does this mean?

OFFICER

Nothing at all---only I'm from the state insane asylum and this man is an escaped in-mate. COME ALONG NAPOLEON. Don't get rough or I'll call you.

OFFICER WILLOBY

Hey---is he crazy?

OFFICER

Crazy as hell! (TAKES NAPOLEON CUT. JACK GIVES LIZZIE A LOOK BEGINS ROLLING UP HIS SLEEVES SHE MUGS AND HE STARTS FOR AFTER HER)

\*\*\*\*\* NUMBER THREE \*\*\*\*\*  
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LIZZIE

(ENTERS FOLLOWED BY ALL OF THEM) Now wait. Don't hit me.

WILLOBY

No---let me at her. You---you----

LIZZIE

Now---don't you call me names or I'll go home.

WILLOBY

YOU'll go home---yes---(HANDS HER A BILL) That's the last bill I've got --there's your salary---now go\*--

LIZZIE

Gee---it's easy to make money.

JACK

You---(STARTS AFTER HER)

LIZZIE

Now don't---I didn't mean to cause you to go broke. I'm sorry. I was trying to help you. I love you. Marjorie knows I do---(BEGINS TO CRY)

JACK

Oh cut the crying out---I should have known better than to have listend to you. Don't cry. It's all over with---I--

LIZZIE

Aint you mad now?

JACK

No.

LIZZIE

Kiss me then. (PUTS FACE TO HIS)

JACK J. WILLOBY

Listen--what ever made you bring your brother here. Didn't you know he was crazy?

JACK

We should have known better ouselves---anybody related to her would have to be crazy. Napoleon? Why didn't you tell me that he thought he was Napoleon.

LIZZIE

Why he is Napoleon.

WILLOBY

What?

LIZZIE

Yes--that's his name---Mama named him Napoleon Bonepart when he was a baby.

JACK

Why did your mother want to give him that name. Napoleon Bonepart.

LIZZIE

Well, every body in our family was always kinda big and fat---all my family's big and fat but him--and when he was born he was so skinny and boney that they just called him Napoleon because he was the Bonepart of our family? See?

WILLOBY

Yes--I see we're out my last five thousand---why did he want to take my money? Why I ask you?

LIZZIE

I don't know unless he figured it was easy to make money.

WILLOBY

Yow. Easy to make money. If I ever hear any one say that again I'll choke. them. (TO JACK) And you---oh it's easy to make money---you --you fool.

JACK

I know it dad-I said it was easy to make money, but I guess I'm wrong--

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but it's all her fault bringing that brother of hers here---~~say jd jd jd~~  
a nobody--a poverty stricken crazy man--

LIZZIE

He wasn't poverty stricken---where my brother had been--he lived in a  
great big mansion---I know he did---

JACK

How do you know he did?

LIZZIE

Because he told me he just got through doing a stretch in the big house  
(JACK STARTS AFTER HER) Now don't you hit me---

WILLOBY

It's no use--Jack--well---I guess I'd better get ready to go to the  
poor house---it's a long walk---

LIZZIE

I'll let you have money enough to ride a taxi if you want to--

MARJORIE

Well, Jack, I'm sorry yo 've have this misfortune---I guess that cancels  
our engagment---I don't care to be the wife of a poor man. Here's  
your ring back. (HANDS IT TO HIM) So long. (EXITS STARTS)

JACK

Marjorie--

NAPOLEON

(ENTERS LR. ) Ah ha---I'm back. (MARJORIE SCREAMS\*)

MARJORIE

(EXITS) Oh the crazy man.

WILLOBY

Look out---he's liable to be desperate---crazy people are often that  
way---

NAPOLEON

Shhh don't be alarmed.. (STARTS FOR WILLOBY)

WILLOBY

Get away from me. Call him off. He's got a mean look in his eye.

NAPOLEON

Listen --I'm not crazy.

WILLOBY

No---we know you're not---(TO JACK) We'll have to humor him Jack. You're  
all right---we know you're all right--but--get away now.

NAPOLEON

Here's the stock. I got it. (HANDS IT TO THEM.\* TO WILLOBY) There's  
your Great Bend--and ~~and~~ here's your Bull Frog and Big Chief  
Mohawk. Soon you will find out that I've made you piles.

WILLOBY

I'm going to make some piles my self if you don't get away from me.

NAPOLEON

Listen to me please---I'm not crazy---why I'

m no mo<sub>2</sub>

crazy than she is.

WILLOBY

Well, that's bad enough.

NAPOLEON

Let me explain. You see I was tricked into being an inmate of the insane asylum. An enemy of mine who is in on this big mining stock deal knew that I knew too much, and so they he had me put in the asylum but I got loose and I've got you two to invest your money in this stock because yo 're going to ruin him.

JACK

Them you're not crazy and we've got a chance to make money on all this stock.

NAPOLEON

Yes--now some of it may not be any good--but you're sure to hit one out of three. The quotations should be on now. I'll phone---the Stock Exchange. Main Ought Zero---Nought X.

WILLOBY

Oh that sounds so good---main ought zero---nought X. That's what we'll get out of this.

JACK

No--dad, I tell you it's easy to make money?

NAPOLEON

Hold on to your stock.

ALL

Now for the quotations.

NAPOLEON

Big Chief Mohawk--- 90 (ALL REPEAT)  
" " " 70 50 30 Big Chief Mohawk (ALONE) Scalped off  
the board!

JACK

Oh I'm sick.

NAPOLEON

Cheer up---you still have Bull Frog to fall back on.

LIZZIE

Hold on to your bull frog.

NAPOLEON

Bull Frog. 'ALL REPEAT. 90 70 40 Bull Frog jumping (ALONE) Jumping  
backward.

LIZZIE

Turn him around turn him around.

NAPOLEON

Bull Frog 70 60 30 (ALONE) Jumped off the board.

JACK

I hope that damn frog croaks.

WILLOBY  
I'm the only wise one in the outfit. I bought Great Bend.

NAPOLEON  
Great Bend (ALL REPEAT SAME BUSINESS OF NUMBERS) Bending. (ALL REPEAT) (ALONE) Bending---Broke!

WILLOBY  
Wow!

NAPOLEON  
(DROPS IN CHAIR) It's failed. Years of planning. I thought I knew what I was talking about--but I didn't. I've failed. I've failed.

LIZZIE  
Didn't we make any money?

WILLOBY  
No, you half wit, no.

LIZZIE  
Gee it aint so easy to make money is it? (PHONE RINGS) (MARJORIE ENTERS

NAPOLEON  
Listen. Maybe there's been a change. Hello --Hello---yes no--yes no---yes---that's so---no---you don't say---Hurrah.

WILLOBY  
What is it? What is it?

NAPOLEON  
I got it wrong. Great Bend went up. It's worth a million cold. You've got nineteen hundred shares and they are eowrht three thousand dollars a share. I knew it would work out right I knew it would work out right.

WILLOBY  
Three thousand dollars a share---My God!

JACK  
See there---dad didn't I tell you it was easy to make money. all to Lizzie.

MARJORIE  
Oh, Jack, I'm sorry for what I've said, and now I wknktmjkdkd back you can give me the ring back.

JACK  
Nothing doing. I'm going to give the ring to Lizzie. (PUTS IT ON HER FINGER) Lizzie, you mine.

LIZZIE  
Oh my gosh.

JACK  
Do you think I've picked out the right girl dad?

WILLOBY  
You bet I do my boy, and I want to make you an offer. kthekdkdkdkdk I'm going to give you ten thousand dollars for a wedding present

JACK  
Thanks.

WILLOBY

And the day that you and Lizzie come to me and tell me that I'm a grandfather I'll give you fifty thousand dollars.

LIZZIE

Oh gee---it's gonna be easy to make money.

F I N A L E